

# LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

## LOBBYING FOR LEON COUNTY'S LEGISLATIVE & ECONOMIC INTERESTS

- Managed the County's state and federal legislative priorities and provided weekly updates to the Board and senior staff on the progress of legislative activity.
- Continued to oversee the County's Economic Stimulus Quick Response Team to maximize federal funding opportunities for local projects.
- Leveraged \$9.8 million of County and City Recovery Zone Facility Bonds, under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, to entice the construction of a three-story office and retail complex in the heart of downtown Tallahassee.
- Oversaw the development of a community partnership to open a teen center at the Palmer Munroe Community Center.
- Managed the County's contract with the Leon County School Board to enhance driver education and behind-the-wheel training for area teens.
- Provided staffing and support to the Leon County Research and Development Authority during its transition period.
- Established the County's Frenchtown/Southside Revitalization Citizen Advisory Committee to address poverty, economic development, and unemployment issues in distressed areas.
- Secured a \$2.1 million grant for the Joint County/City Public Safety Complex through the federal appropriations process.
- Served on the **WORKFORCE Plus** Reinvest Local Advisory Council to organize efforts relating to employment services and training funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.
- Provided staffing to the Public Safety Coordinating Council, which is charged with monitoring programs that reduce jail overcrowding and alternative programs of incarceration for nonviolent offenders.
- Implemented a one-year vocational training program at the Leon County Jail for non-violent female inmates to reduce recidivism.



*The Leon County Legislative Delegation conducts an annual public hearing in the County Commission Chambers to hear from Leon County residents prior to each legislative session.*



### DID YOU KNOW

Leon County collects a \$3 civil fee for all moving traffic violations and provides the revenues to the Leon County School Board to enhance driver education courses for area teens.

Legislative Affairs and Economic Development provides coordination to ensure that Leon County receives resources and support to best serve its citizens. The division provides policy recommendations for the County's high-priority issues, creates the annual legislative priorities and monitors legislative issues.

Director Ken Morris has been employed by Leon County since 2004 and holds a master's degree from FSU's Askew School of Public Administration. Morris has served as the County's point person on numerous projects, including property tax reform legislation, jail overcrowding issues and economic development opportunities.

Prior to joining the County, Morris worked for several offices of the Legislature, including the State Administration Council and the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability. He was also selected for the esteemed Speaker's Fellowship Program in 2003, serving as a legislative analyst for the Local Government Committee and the Select Committee on Affordable Housing in the Florida House during the 2004 legislative session.

### Ken Morris

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